

CLAIMS

1 1. Method for communicating to a server machine (2b) a certificate of a user
2 (4) sent by a client machine (2a) via a security module (2c) of a computer system (1), the
3 protocol used between the machine (2a) and (2b) being HTTP or an equivalent protocol, a
4 security protocol like SSL or an equivalent protocol being implemented between the
5 client machine (2a) and the security module(2c), characterized in that it consists of
6 inserting said certificate into a cookie header of a request in HTTP or an equivalent
7 protocol in order to transmit them from the security module (2c) to the server machine
8 (2b).

1 2. Method according to claim 1, characterized in that it consists of removing
2 from said certificate all of the separators used in the headers of the HTTP messages prior
3 to its insertion into a cookie header.

1 3. Method according to either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that it
2 consists of searching, prior to the insertion of said certificate into a header, to see if a
3 cookie header is present in the HTTP request sent by the client machine (2a) and if not, of
4 creating one.

1 4. Method according to claim 3, characterized in that it consists of adding a
2 specific cookie into the existing or created cookie header, a configurable default name
3 being assigned to said specific cookie enabling the server machine (2b) to distinguish the
4 certificate from the cookies of the HTTP or equivalent request.

1 5. Method according to any of claims 1 through 4, characterized in that it
2 consists of transmitting to the server machine (2b) the HTTP or equivalent request sent by
3 the client machine (2a) into which the certificate has been inserted.

1 6. Security machine (2c) for securing the exchanges between a client machine
2 (2a) and a server machine (2b) of a computer system (1), the protocol used between the
3 machine (2a) and (2b) being HTTP or an equivalent protocol, a security protocol like SSL
4 or an equivalent protocol being implemented between the client machine (2a) and said

5 security machine (2c), characterized in that it comprises analyzing means (6) that make it
6 possible to transmit a certificate into a cookie header of an HTTP or equivalent request.

1 7. System comprising a client machine (2a), a server machine (2b) and a
2 security module (2c), the protocol used between the machine (2a) and (2b) being HTTP
3 or an equivalent protocol, a security protocol like SSL or an equivalent protocol being
4 implemented between the client machine (2a) and the security module (2c), characterized
5 in that the security module (2c) comprises analyzing means (6) that make it possible to
6 transmit a certificate sent by the client machine (2a) into a cookie header of an HTTP or
7 equivalent request.

1 8. Program integrated into a security module (2c) that allows the method
2 according to any of claims 1 through 5 to be executed when the program is run in a
3 machine.